

Use this activity for Friendship Day (Aug. 1, 2004) or to remind Christian children that friends who do not obey God can lead a Christian astray.

*Materials:* 2 backpacks; 10 file cards (3" x 5") felt-tip markers or pens.

*Directions:* Label backpacks "A Good Friend" and "Not a Good Friend." Print one statement below on each card.

- Good friends like to talk to each other.
- Good friends like to do things together.
- Good friends tell lies about each other.
- Good friends keep their promises to each other.
- Good friends like to make each other mad.
- Good friends help each other with hard jobs.



- 
- Good friends help each other get into trouble.
  - Good friends will stay with you when you have a problem.
  - Good friends steal things from each other.
  - Good friends trust each other.

Give cards to any kids (readers or nonreaders) in the class. Each child reads the card to himself if he can, then all place their cards in one of the backpacks. Read 1 Corinthians 15:33 and discuss. Say, "Let's see if we have these cards in the correct place. Six cards belong in the 'A Good Friend' pack and four in the 'Not a Good Friend' pack." Start with "Not a Good Friend." Remove the cards, read one at a time, letting the class decide if it is in the correct backpack. After all the cards have been read let the children review them as they are being put back in the correct backpack.

—Barth and Sally Middleton